



LIC-4001-FORM

Instructions: Applicants seeking to engage in Storefront Retailer Commercial Cannabis Activity (Type 10 or 12) in a Community Plan Area that has reached Undue Concentration must complete and submit this form to the Department of Cannabis Regulation in order to file a request that the Los Angeles City Council find that approval of the license application would serve a public convenience or necessity (PCN) supported by evidence in the record, pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 104.03(a)(1).

To: Office of the City Clerk
City of Los Angeles
City Hall, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

<p><i>For City Clerk Use Only:</i> Council File No. _____ Received On: _____ Expiration Date: _____</p>
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Business Premises Location: 13711 Ventura Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 91423
Community Plan Area: Sherman Oaks - Studio City - Toluca Lake - Cahuenga Pass CD: 4
Applicant Entity Name: Green Qween Sherman Oaks LLC.
Contact Name: Taylor Bazley Phone No. 61197217897
Applicant's Email: taylor@thegreenqween.com
Total Floor Area of Business: 2,265 square feet
Proposed Hours of Operation: 8a - 10p Days: Sunday - Monday
Days: _____
Days: _____

The Los Angeles Municipal Code limits the number of Storefront Retailer Commercial Cannabis Activity Licenses (Types 10 or 12) by Community Plan Area based on the definition of "Undue Concentration" in LAMC Section 104.01(a). Once DCR issues a specific number of relevant license types in a particular Community Plan Area, Undue Concentration is reached and the Los Angeles City Council must approve the processing of any additional license applications in that Community Plan Area.

Explain how the Commercial Cannabis Activity will serve the public convenience or necessity (attach and number additional pages if necessary):

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities

Explain how the Commercial Cannabis Activity will serve the public convenience or necessity:

Green Qween is an unapologetically queer, community-driven, socially conscious experiential retail environment and dynamic lifestyle brand that breaks from the typical hypermasculine dispensary model by creating an affordable safe space that invites LGBTQ+, BIPOC and allied consumers to choose Green Qween as their preferred cannabis resource.

As further extrapolated in the second response of this application, Green Qween primarily serves the public convenience or necessity through fulfillment of three of the standards expressed by the Los Angeles City Council by:

- Supporting a higher demand for cannabis retail establishments by virtue of its location within both an entertainment & commercial corridor;
- Reducing crime and nuisance activity in the area through a robust security program; and
- Improving the geographic distribution of cannabis retail establishments within the community plan.

Striving for more than just meeting standards, Green Qween seeks to additionally serve the public convenience or necessity in ways above and beyond the standards put forth by the City Council.

Inspired by the first medical dispensaries in the Castro which provided cannabis to those suffering from HIV/AIDS, Green Qween will invest in LGBTQ public art and events, hire from the community with a robust equity in hire program, make grant contributions to fund Somos Familia Valle's LGBTQ Mental Health Center and support queer owned consumer brands with priority access to shelf space to diversify the entire industry.

Invest in LGBTQ Public Art & Events

Green Qween had commissioned, at its sole expense, a now iconic 2,400 square foot mural by the acclaimed LGBTQ artist, Patrick Church. It is the intention of Green Qween to make the same investment, to the tune of \$25,000+ to the Sherman Oaks location to support the visibility and vitality of the LGBTQ community. Patrick Church has written a letter of support which will be added to the record to further explain the impact of their work.

Additionally, Green Qween has a robust history of organizing and supporting LGBTQ special events. Green Qween's Downtown Los Angeles collaborates with Queer Mercado to execute a monthly LGBTQ market place adjacent to the Green Qween location providing space for dozens of local LGBTQ artisans. Queer Mercado has prepared a letter of support which will be added to the record to explain their close relationship to Green Qween and provide a loud voice of support for the application. Green Qween has encouraged community development in numerous other ways including successfully arranging acclaimed transgendered rapper, Big Freedia, to perform at the DTLA Proud Festival in connection with their product launch at Green

Qween, participates with CD14's LGBTQIA+ Public Infrastructure in DTLA Committee, and has been involved with dozens of other local activations. DTLA Proud and the Fashion Business Improvement District have provided letters of support which will be added to the record underscoring the positive impact Green Qween has had on the neighborhood.

Equity in Hire Program:

Green Qween is proud to boast an industry leading equitable hiring program. Green Qween is committed to advertising positions in diverse places resulting in a majority of its staff identifying as LGBTQ+. It additionally supports its retail staff with compensation well above industry averages and paid time off available to employees - a rarity in the retail industry that should be standard.

Philanthropic Grant Program:

Green Qween has committed to supporting Somos Familia Valle's Mental Health LGBTQ Center with the mission to support the health and wellness of the area's LGBTQ people. Somos Familia Valle is well known for its community activism including as one of the organizers and sponsors of Valley Pride along with The Social Impact Center. Both The Social Impact Center and Somos Familia Valle have prepared letters which will be added to the record to further explain our close relationship and lend their strong support for the finding that Green Qween supports the public convenience or necessity.

Stock LGBTQ, BIPOC, Women Owned Consumer Brands:

Green Qween is committed to our mission through every opportunity of its expression including in the procurement of consumer brands to stock our shelves. Green Qween will give priority access to contracts to LGBTQ+, women, and BIPOC owned businesses. Green Qween expects to be the first contract for many of these businesses and seeks through this process to help support the incubation of diversity within the broader cannabis business community. The policy of supporting minority owned business through our procurement process serves the public convenience or necessity.

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Green Qween will be a destination & refuge for those seeking a safe, affordable and informative community driven socially conscious retail dispensary and will live by the motto "QUEER ALL YEAR" unlike our competitors who only come out for the LGBTQ community during Pride Season.

Explain how this request meets one or more of the City Council’s public convenience or necessity standards pursuant to City Council’s adopted Resolution:

Green Qween meets three of the standards put forth for the consideration of a finding of public convenience or necessity by the City Council’s adopted resolution. While only one standard is required to support a finding of public convenience or necessity, the existence of three further underscores that granting an additional cannabis retail license would serve the public convenience or need.

A summary of the facts that support each standard can be found below followed by a more detailed explanation with supporting evidence which proves each standard is met:

1. Ventura Blvd. and Woodman Ave. are areas of increased density and consumer traffic as both an entertainment & commercial corridor leading to a higher demand for commercial cannabis retail establishments.
2. Green Qween’s proposed security and operations plan include clear specified public safety related features which will reduce crime and nuisance activity in the area.
3. The existing commercial cannabis businesses in the community plan area are far disproportionately concentrated in the Eastern portion of the district; the proposed subject property located in the Western half of the community plan would improve geographic distribution of licenses within the community plan area.

- 1. The proposed business premises would serve an area of increased density or consumer traffic, including but not limited to an entertainment or commercial corridor, such that the proposed location would serve the public convenience or necessity by satisfying a higher demand for retail locations.**

The project is located along the historic Ventura Boulevard, an area of dense commercial and entertainment uses. Additionally, the property is located near Ventura Boulevard’s intersection with Woodman Avenue which is a significant commercial street which currently has no cannabis retail storefronts located.

Venutra Boulevard has always been among the most concentrated locations for small businesses in the Valley and contains pockets of housing, mini-malls, and shops. It is a frequent entertainment destination with a historic concentration of theaters, restaurants, and bars.

The proposed project is in both an entertainment and commercial corridor of considerable density and consumer traffic satisfying this condition and supporting the public need for an additional cannabis retail dispensary.

- 2. The requestor’s business would include clear specified public safety related features, such that the operation of the requestor’s business would serve the public convenience or necessity by likely reducing crime or nuisance activity in the surrounding area.**

Green Queen will employ public safety related features that will reduce crime and nuisance activity by committing:

- The presence of a security guard;
- State of the art public surveillance system with two years of recorded footage;
- Increased lighting around the perimeter of the property; and
- Through increased street level activation.

The public surveillance system will monitor the full exterior perimeter around the proposed location. Those cameras will be state of the art and two years of footage will be saved on site. This footage may be useful to law enforcement investigations and act as a deterrent for crime in the area increasing the public safety.

Green Queen will install lighting in the area behind the store, consistent with the LAMC in regards to light onto the public right of way, to improve the public safety in the evening time. Additionally, Green Queen will contribute positively to the overall activation of the area including by the installation of a large public art project complete with an anti graffiti coating helping contribute positively to a vibrant pedestrian experience.

Green Queen will provide a bright, guarded, secure, and active beacon for its area on Ventura Boulevard supporting public safety and serving the public convenience or necessity.

3. The existing commercial cannabis businesses in the requestor's Community Plan Area are concentrated in one area, such that the requestor's business, located in another area, would serve the public convenience or necessity.

Green Queen will be the only retail storefront along Woodman Ave., a major North-South artery that connects the interior of the San Fernando Valley, and Sherman Oaks, with the Los Angeles Basin. Currently, there are 12 licensed retail storefronts in community plan area but there are only three in the entire Western half of that community plan area, an area that contains an approximate 53,000 people. This is a ratio of ~18k persons to one dispensary which is nearly double the target identified by the Los Angeles City Council.

It is clear that there is a significantly unequal geographic distribution of dispensaries within the community plan, and an additional dispensary licensed in Sherman Oaks would help improve the geographic diversity and move the center of the geographic distribution of commercial cannabis retail storefronts closer to that of the community plan's population.

Green Queen would improve the geographic diversity of cannabis retail dispensaries in the community plan thus serving the public convenience or necessity.

GREEN QWEEEN



Who We Are

Launched in May 2022, Green Qween is a Queer and POC-led social equity licensed dispensary in Los Angeles. We sell premium cannabis products with a focus on supporting emerging LGBTQ+ brands in a space that's queer-all-year.

Green Qween honors queer history and identity in cannabis by forging relationships with the community that has resulted in a trans fashion show, queer monthly artisan popup, and even a book club!

Our Downtown Location provides an **annual percentage of proceeds to the DTLA Proud Community Center** and we also proudly have a robust equitable hiring program.



GREEN QWEEN



Green Qween's Andrés Rigal on the New Era of Queer Cannabis

Plus, the power of partnerships and the big future for cannabis-infused drinks

Wallpaper*

Discover the brands redefining the marijuana experience



High Design: The Revolution Taking Over Cannabis Dispensaries



Green Qween: Creating a Unique, Equitable and Queer Space for Cannabis

mg Green Qween Embraces the LGBTQ+ Community with Style

hospitalitydesign

LA WEEKLY

Los Angeles MAGAZINE

THE BEST OF LA

Green Qween Is Building an Inclusive Cannabis Empire

DTLA PROUD, GREEN QWEEN AND BIG FREEDIA SPARK UP THE COMMUNITY



*Supporting the LGBTQ+ community from seed to sale,
Green Qween's mission is to use cannabis as a vehicle
to empower and enrich the Queer Communities its
stores serve.*

GREEN QWEEN



A look into DTLA Impact

Green Qween has always made community improvement an integral part of its mission. **We did it in DTLA, and we're excited to do it in Sherman Oaks.**

Green Qween has been an architect of positive change in downtown, infusing the urban tapestry with **talent, captivating public art, and vibrant non-cannabis community events.**



“Green Qween has gone way above and beyond what might be asked of a responsible local business and we couldn’t be more thrilled to have them as our neighbors - this is a business you want in your community.”

-- The Hoxton Hotel

Commitment to Public Art

Green Qween collaborated with acclaimed artist **Patrick Church** to produce an original and **eye-catching mural** stretching the entire alleyway next to the shop.

Through this commission we turned a notoriously **derelict alley** into a new **destination for art** in downtown Los Angeles.



“Green Qween is intentional and walks the walk as a community-centered business... Green Qween is for the people. Green Qween would be amazing for Sherman Oaks.” -- Patrick Church, Artist



Events for the Community

Our events center around **queer culture, fashion, and energy** to highlight **non-cannabis artists and makers**.

Every month, Green Qween hosts **The Queer Mercado**, an open-air marketplace in the Patrick Church alley that showcases local LGBTQ+ artists and brands.

The DTLA community shows up in big numbers to try everything from jewelry and apparel to food and paintings.

“Green Qween approached us with the brilliant idea to bring our transformative Queer shopping experience to Downtown LA. They have been dream partners by providing the space, infrastructure, and helping with outreach thereby enabling the marketplace which has grown to include dozens of vendors monthly.” -- Diana Diaz, Founder

And More...

- LGBTQ+ Brand Commitment
- Equitable Hiring Program
- Trans Discount
- Non-Cannabis LGBTQ Product In-Store Market
- Investments in Public Lighting & Maintenance
- LGBTQ+ Community Visibility
- LGBTQ+ History Sharing





Sherman Oaks

Somos Familia Valle

At the core of Green Qween's blueprint for meaningful influence lies its steadfast commitment to allocating funding for **Somos Familia Valle**—an esteemed community organization based in the San Fernando Valley and spearheaded by trans queer individuals of color that co-produces the annual Valley Pride!

Similar to what we did in DTLA, Green Qween is eager to forge another transformative partnership with a local LGBTQ+ impact organization and expand services in the Sherman Oaks community.

“Green Qween has been a major and decidedly positive force for the LGBTQ+ community... their mission is an important one to support.” -- DTLA Proud

13711 Ventura Blvd (Vetura & Woodman) Details

Application: Cannabis Retail License

NO PHYSICAL CHANGES
(Beyond Cosmetic Improvements)

Zoning: C2

Lot Size: 4,597 sq'

Existing Building Size: ~3,000sq' (No Changes)

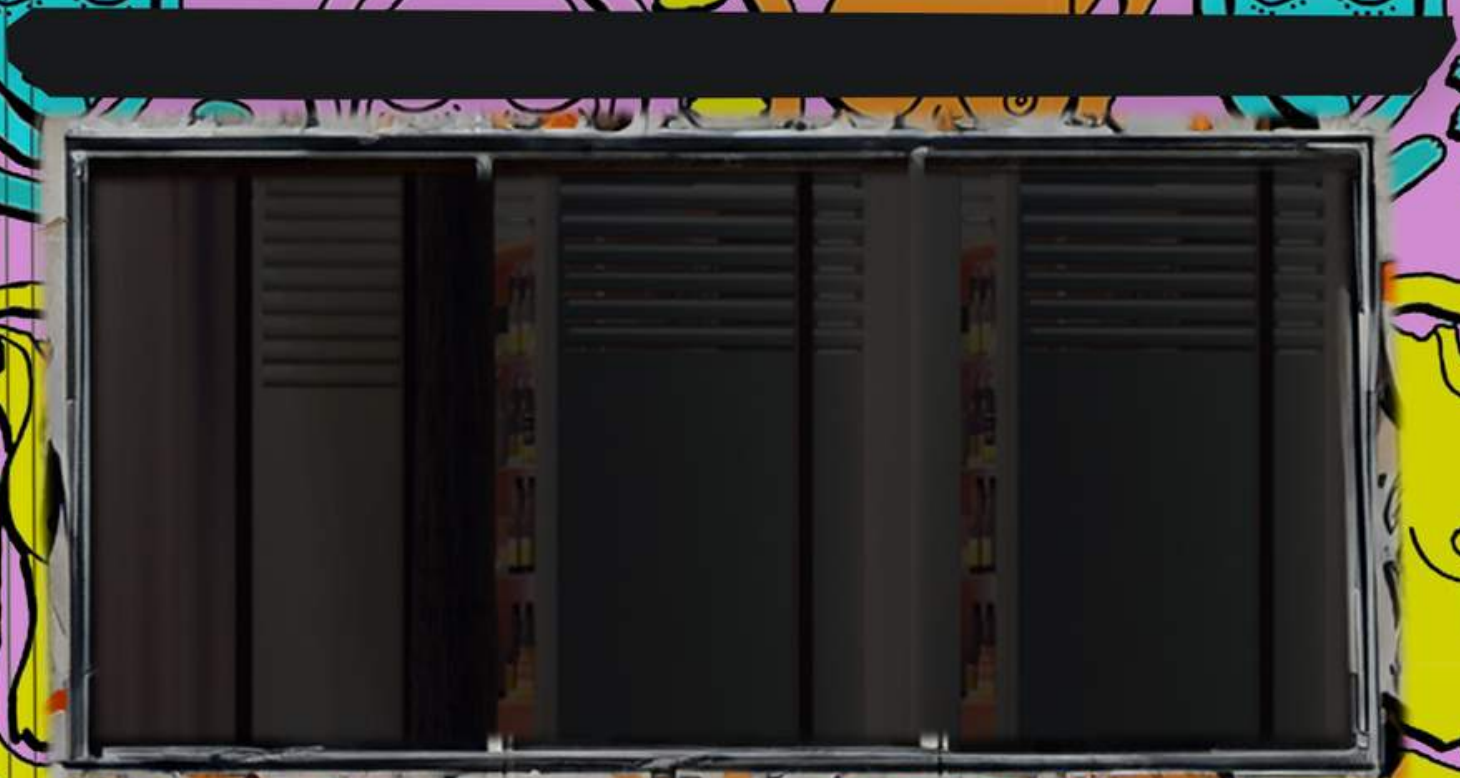
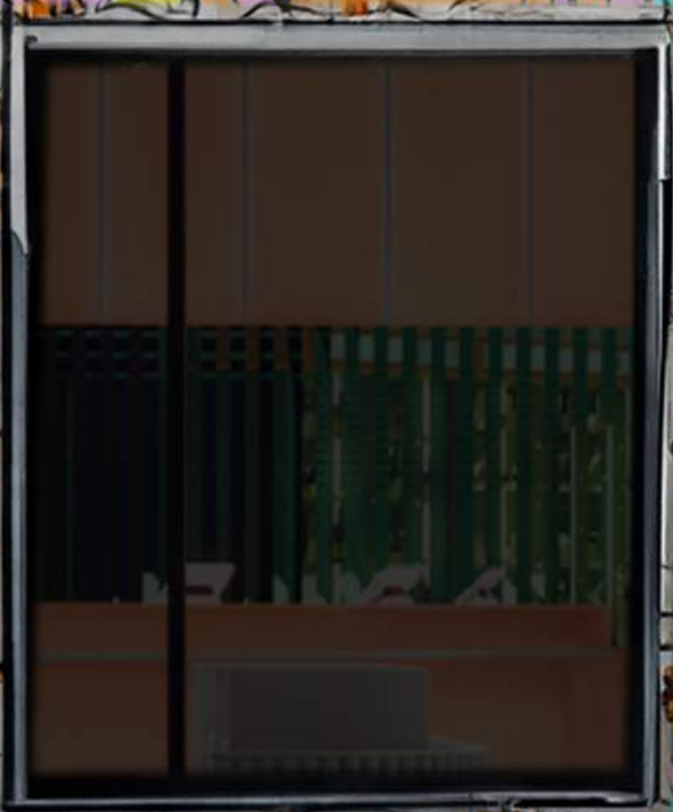
Previous & Proposed Use: Retail

Hiring Consultant to Maximize Parking Lot

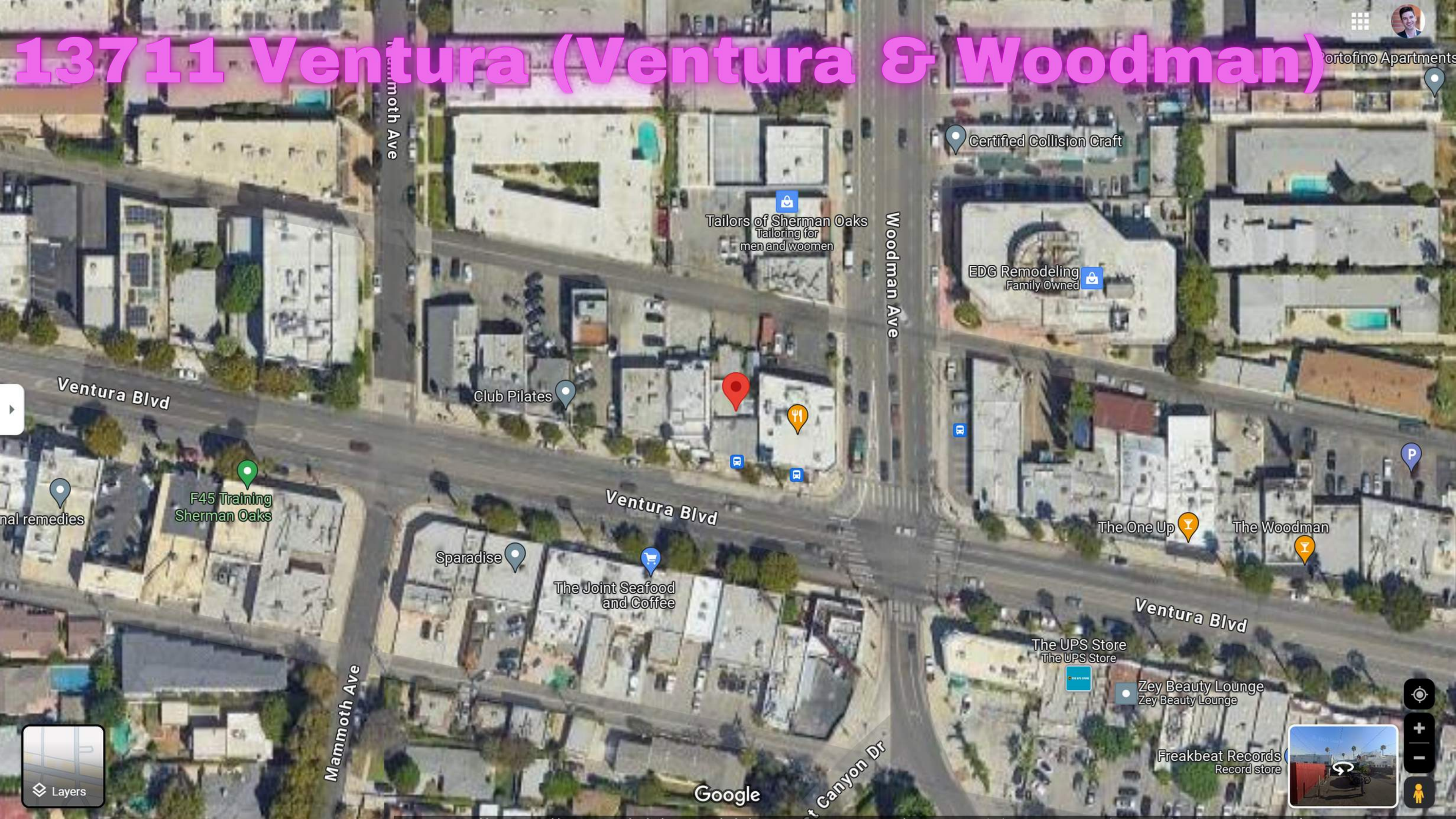
Verified (by City) at Least 700' From Anything Sensitive



GREEN & WEEEN



13711 Ventura (Ventura & Woodman)



Mammoth Ave

Woodman Ave

Ventura Blvd

Ventura Blvd

Ventura Blvd

Mammoth Ave

Woodman Canyon Dr

Google

Layers

Tailors of Sherman Oaks
Tailoring for
men and woomen

Certified Collision Craft

EDG Remodeling
Family Owned

Club Pilates

F45 Training
Sherman Oaks

Sparadise

The Joint Seafood
and Coffee

The One Up

The Woodman

The UPS Store
The UPS Store

Zey Beauty Lounge
Zey Beauty Lounge

Freakbeat Records
Record store



Questions, comments or concerns?

Feel free to reach out to us,
we would love to to hear from you!

Taylor Bazley, Co-owner and Founder
Taylor@thegreenqween.com



@shopgreenqween



Re: Support for Green Qween!

Dear Councilmember Nithya Raman,

I am writing in fervent support of Green Qween's cannabis retail license application made by Andres Rigal at 13711 Ventura Blvd.

Andres who is a social equity applicant and founder of Green Qween—a groundbreaking start-up cannabis company committed to LGBTQ+ upliftment—is looking to bring their dispensary to the Valley and we are ecstatic to welcome them.

Since 2014, Somos Familia Valle has been dedicated to creating intersectional LGBTQ+ liberation and affirming spaces. This includes uplifting businesses that showcase commitment to actively increasing LGBTQ+ presence and creating spaces for our beloved San Fernando Valley LGBTQ+ community to thrive. Green Qween has demonstrated that is their type of business and has committed to supporting the San Fernando Valley LGBTQ Community Center—which will offer desperately needed mental health resources to the LGBTQ+ community in the San Fernando Valley.

Their track record at uplifting the LGBTQ community speaks for the value that their license application represents—they aren't just another extractive cannabis dispensary; they are a social enterprise that will uplift and strengthen our already vibrant community.

We look forward to your support of Green Qween's application for a license in the San Fernando Valley and would love to tell you more about our plans for the community center, and how Green Qween plays into it. Thank you for all your support over the years for the Valley's LGBTQ+ community.

Sincerely,

Kevin Al Perez
President
Somos Familia Valle

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Al Perez", written in a cursive style.



Respect. Collaboration. Inclusion.

(818)428-5821

felicia@thesocialimpactcenter.org

www.thesocialimpactcenter.org

Dear Council-member Nithya Raman,

For the better part of two and a half decades I have organized at the intersection of LGBTQIA+ and cannabis community issues and over the last 5 years, I've served as the Executive Director of The Social Impact Center (TSIC).

Key to our mission at TSIC has been our advocacy for the increased inclusion of social equity goals within the development of the legal cannabis industry in Los Angeles. TSIC provides leadership development—designed to uplift local communities impacted by historical cannabis regulation—to cannabis dispensaries via intensive education, storytelling, and community building. Practicing what we preach, TSIC also works closely with local community based organizations to uplift our Valley citizens and partners with Somos Familia Valle to coordinate San Fernando Valley Pride.

As a social equity leader in the Valley community, I'm writing to share my strong support for Green Qween's application for a finding of public convenience or necessity for a cannabis retail license. Their commitment to equitable hiring, philanthropic grants, and prioritization to minority owned consumer brands is industry leading and deserves support.

Through the PCN process, you have the opportunity to make a lasting impact on the equitability of the cannabis market in your district and I urge you to wield that power to support businesses only when they commit to the highest standards of social equity goals which they are capable of accomplishing as is the case with Green Qween.

Thank you for your time and for your continued support of our diverse San Fernando Valley communities.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Felicia Carbajal". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Felicia Carbajal

Co-Founder, Executive Director at The Social Impact Center



Dear Councilmember Nithya Ramen,

It is with great pleasure that I submit my letter in support of Green Qween's retail license application.

In 2022, Green Qween approached me to design a mural on their DTLA location, and I couldn't have been more excited for this opportunity to uplift LGBTQ+ business with my art. Green Qween quite literally rolled out the pink carpet and brought prominent community members and celebrities to view this mural for their opening. Based on the community feedback, we also collaborated to design a matching custom clothing series for their store.



(Left to Right: Green Qween Mural and Green custom clothing line)

My experience with Green Qween has been that of a business that is intentional and walks the walk. They support the LGBTQ+ community sincerely. Key example: uplifting LGBTQ+ art. We need this visibility in communities! Art is an expression of the people; it's social impact; it beautifies space and strengthens communities. I've discussed the prospect of designing a mural for Green Qween's potential Sherman Oaks location, and it is something that I am eager about.

I truly hope you give Green Qween the utmost consideration when determining who to grant a license. How many businesses can we say actually do the business and invest effort in the social impact? Not many! Green Qween is for the people. Green Qween would be amazing for Sherman Oaks.

Thank you for taking time to read my letter.

Paint the World You Want to See,

A Dedicated Artist

Patrick Church
Owner, Patrick Church LLC
Studio@patrickchurchartist.com



The Goddess Mercado 501c3

To: Councilmember Nithya Ramen
From: The Queer Mercado

I'm writing to provide testament to the impact Green Qween has on the LGBTQ+ community and advocate for their licensing.

Since 2021, Queer Mercado has hosted thousands of local Queer businesses to uplift the LGBTQ+ community at our monthly market in East Los Angeles. By creating safe spaces for the queer community to connect, The Queer Mercado has given opportunity for the queer community to invest in their neighborhood as a means to offset ongoing gentrification and has given a platform to talented local artisans.

Last year Green Qween approached us with the brilliant idea to bring our transformative Queer shopping experience to Downtown Los Angeles. They have been dream partners by providing the space, infrastructure, and helping with outreach thereby enabling the marketplace which has grown to include dozens of vendors monthly.

The combination of queer folx, latinos, and cannabis in a safe space such as the Queer Mercado is so pertinent. Not only does it lift up the community, but it speaks for a movement toward healing the consequential impact of historical criminalization of communities of color and cannabis.

Part of Green Qween's mission is supporting LGBTQIA+, BIPOC, women-owned, and marginalized businesses and they have done exactly that. The proliferation of Green Qween is a boon to both the neighborhoods and the LGBTQ+ community that it serves.

We urge you to support Green Qween by granting them a PCN license. We would be more than happy to tell you more about our partnership with them.

In Solidarity,

Diana Diaz
The Goddess and Queer Mercado Founder

Should you have any questions, feel free to call 323-304-4305 or e-mail thegoddessmercado@gmail.com

The Goddess Mercado 501c3 | [@thegoddessmercado](https://www.instagram.com/thegoddessmercado) | www.thegoddessmercado.com |
[@thegoddessmercadoboutique](https://www.instagram.com/thegoddessmercadoboutique) | [@Thequeermercado](https://www.instagram.com/Thequeermercado)



Unique Woman's Coalition
1001 N Martel Ave
Los Angeles CA 90046

(323) 499-1193
Toll Free (877) UWC-LINE
events@theuwc.org
www.theuwc.org

October 15, 2023

Re: Support for Green Qween's Cannabis Retail License

Greetings, Councilmember Nithya Raman,

Since its establishment in 1997, Unique Woman's Coalition has been a stalwart advocate for the Black Trans community in Southern California. UWC's mission is to amplify the voices and address the unique needs of Black trans culture, nurturing the next generation of Black trans leaders through mentorship, scholarships, and community engagement. Our core belief is in creating pathways where none exist, fostering opportunities for others to follow suit.

Much like our commitment to uplift the Black Trans community, Green Qween has illuminated the cannabis industry's potential to authentically support community representation. Notably, their collaboration with the Black trans icon, Big Freedia, for the launch of a groundbreaking cannabis line, and their involvement in DTLA Proud's festival, have created possibility models for youth and adults alike. These efforts exemplify the kind of business that aligns with our mission.

As a champion for underserved communities, we implore you to continue your legacy by supporting Green Qween's license application. Your backing will play a pivotal role in making the cannabis industry more inclusive and welcoming for the LGBTQIA+ and BIPOC communities. This is a historic opportunity, and we urge you to stand with us in supporting Green Qween.

With respect and gratitude,

Queen Chela Demuir

Queen Chela Demuir, M.A.
Unique Woman's Coalition
Founder / President/ CEO



Saving Lives Through Acceptance of Diversity

October 23, 2023

Councilmember Nithya Ramen
City of Los Angeles
200 N Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: 13711 Ventura Blvd. (Green Qween Sherman Oaks LLC), Cannabis PCN Request

Dear Councilmember Nithya Ramen,

I am writing in support of Green Qween's request for a finding of public convenience or necessity to allow the further processing of a Type 10 cannabis retail license by the City of Los Angeles.

Co-founded in 2019 by our friend Taylor Bazley, Green Qween seeks to create an affordable safe space that welcomes LGBTQIA+ and allied consumers to select Green Qween as their preferred cannabis provider.

Taylor has been a fierce and loyal supporter of Venice Pride since its inception in 2016. He has tirelessly advocated for many of Venice Pride's greatest achievements including reopening Roosterfish, creating the Venice Pride Flag Lifeguard Tower, and installing L.A.'s first rainbow Crosswalk!

The people behind Green Qween are genuine and authentic - their actions as advocates and community leaders speak volumes. The City of Los Angeles needs more authentic representation, it needs more community driven LGBTQ business, and it needs more of Green Qween.

Please consider supporting Green Qween's cannabis PCN request as it will promote a more diverse and inclusive community.

Sincerely,

Grant Turck
Executive Director



By the Community, For the Community.

Dear Councilmember Nithya Raman,

I am writing in support of Green Qween's cannabis retail license application in Sherman Oaks and provide testament to the extremely positive impact to the LGBTQIA+ community that their existing location in Downtown Los Angeles has had.

Green Qween has been a major and decidedly positive force for the LGBTQIA+ community - in only their first year, Green Qween:

- Created a monthly market place with Queer Mercado in DTLA
- Commissioned famed queer artist, Patrick Church, to install a now iconic 2,500 sq' mural on the topic of queer love;
- Collaborated on numerous events among local queer businesses
- Hired robustly from within the community; and
- Arranged Big Freedia to headline last year's DTLA Proud Festival!

Further, Green Qween sits on Council District 14's LGBTQIA+ Public Infrastructure Group and has committed to financially support our recently opened Community Center which provides a centralized space for needed services to the LGBTQIA+ community.

Green Qween represents an beacon of positivity and lives up to its motto "Queer All Year." Green Qween has shown a fierce commitment to uplifting the LGBTQIA+ community and their mission is an important one to support.

Please continue your history of allyship to the LGBTQIA+ community by supporting Green Qween's application! If it would be helpful, we would love to discuss our partnership with Green Qween.

Sincerely,

Oliver Alpuche
Founder, Board Member & President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Oliver Alpuche", written over a horizontal line.



August 18, 2023

Council District 4
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street, Room 415
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Green Qween - Downtown Los Angeles

Dear Council District 4,

On behalf of the LA Fashion District, we write to enthusiastically endorse Green Qween, a community focuses business that has been a wonderful addition to our district.

The LA Fashion District Business Improvement District (BID) is a non-profit organization representing 4000+ businesses and 1000+ property owners. It provides cleaning and security services for the 107+ block district.

Green Qween is an exemplar, dismantling the stereotype that cannabis dispensary establishments disrupt neighborhood harmony. On the contrary, they have emerged as outstanding, responsible neighbors and have been committed to strengthening the feeling of community along their corridor. They installed a huge mural on the side of their building, secured the installation of street trees, activated space by organizing the Queer Mercado, and collaborated with our office on beautification initiatives.

In 2022, Green Qween opened its first location in Downtown Los Angeles and has since been the ideal business. Their presence has been transformative, ushering in a new era of progress in our district and encapsulating the eclectic environment the LA Fashion District is known for.

We supported their initial license application for their commitment to providing a community-driven cannabis dispensary to strengthen the local LGBTQIA and POC communities and, a year later, would, without reservation, proudly support their application again if it were up for consideration within the LA Fashion District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony Rodriguez", is located below the "Sincerely," text.

Anthony Rodriguez
Executive Director



The Hoxton, Downtown LA

1060 South Broadway
Los Angeles, CA 90015

October 23, 2023

Dear Nithya Ramen,

This letter offers testament to the fantastic neighborliness and exceedingly positive impact Green Qween has had in the pocket of Downtown Los Angeles we share.

While you might expect a boutique hotel brand to have issues with a cannabis dispensary directly across from its lobby than praise, actually we can't speak highly enough of Green Qween. From day one they have been effective advocates for the improvement of the block including by:

- Successfully working to install additional street trees;
- Painting a beautiful LGBTQ mural along their previously derelict alley and installing cafe lights in that alley;
- Coordinating with local stakeholders for improved bike infrastructure and additional trash cans;
- Lighting the tree in front of their store for a fun and festive way to improve the pedestrian orientation of the otherwise underlit street;
- Bringing a monthly pop up market (Queer Mercado) into Downtown which offers a special authentic treat for our guests every first Sunday;
- Maintaining a beautiful, award winning, storefront; and
- Improving local safety with on street cameras and the presence of additional security.

Green Qween has gone way above and beyond what might be asked of a responsible local business and we couldn't be more thrilled to have them as our neighbors - this is a business you want in your community.

In Solidarity,

Kara Bartelt
General Manager
The Hoxton, Downtown LA



August 23, 2023

To: Councilwoman Nithya Ramen
From: The Bohemian Chemist

Dear Honorable Councilwoman,

For your consideration, I am writing to you today about Green Qween and our ongoing relationship as one of our retail partners. Green Qween is a kindred spirit to The Bohemian Chemist. Central to the development of the Bohemian Chemist is our partnership with small, legacy owned cannabis farms whose products are environmentally conscious and in line with our own best practices. Like us, Green Qween's birth was intertwined with goals to support small businesses and communities with histories tied to inequitable cannabis policy. We both also happen to be LGBTQ+ owned.

A little bit about my background, I am very much involved in community economic development, innovation and the democratization of resources and capitol. Currently I am on a 32 member team of CalOSBA's (part of GoBiz) Entrepreneurship and Economic Mobility Task Force. I was nominated, vetted and approved by the Governor's office to work with the Advocate seeking solutions and resources for California's 4.2 million small businesses. I am the only member on the team in the cannabis industry. Inclusion and fair access of both BIPOC and LGBTQ businesses is a pivotal to the work of EEMTF. In addition, I sit on the board of West Business Development Center, a non-profit that is one of the oldest women's business centers in the country. Now serving all small businesses in our community, we advocate for small business and entrepreneurs so they have access to the technical assistance and resources to grow their business.

If small businesses and equity are your priorities, then I think you could not find a better community partner than Green Qween, which has made this a focus of their mission. As a small business owner myself, they have been excellent to work with.

Warm Regards,



Jim Roberts

The Bohemian Chemist
The Madrones and The Brambles
Wickson Restaurant
Sugar Hill Farm, LLC

Re: Support for Green Qween

To Whom It May Concern

I write to you as a first time founder and small business owner based in Canoga Park, CA. Due to rapid corporate consolidation in California cannabis, small businesses today can struggle to find dispensaries that are willing to partner with them. It's typical for a business to only carry brands with a long-term history in the market or a big checkbook that can help bring in new customers. I am personally excited to have this opportunity to advocate for Green Qween—a company that has actively supported my growing cannabis brand, Tempo Crackers, and helped create long term jobs right in your backyard.

Green Qween's dedication to the LGBTQ+ community led them to our business and speaks to their dedication to engaging with their local community. They've continued to sell our products since they're opening and host a monthly market to showcase local Queer vendors and artisans.

You will support an entire community of small businesses by supporting Green Qween. Do what so many politicians and political leaders claim to desire. Please take action immediately!

With Sincerity,

Robert Holland
CEO & Founder
Tempo Crackers

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Holland', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

TEMPO

August 31, 2023

Topic: Cannabis License - Green Qween Application

Dear Nithya Ramen,

Green Qween is the only cannabis dispensary that is LGBTQIA+ owned and using that identity as a key to their brand. They celebrate their own community undeniably through championing inclusivity in all forms. As a founding corporate member of the Cannabis Media Council, I see Green Qween and their mission as a “best in show” example of creating space that is more than just a shop – it is an enriched community celebration.

When you walk into Green Qween, you can feel their ethos all around you; it’s in the design, the employees they’ve hired, the brands they showcase, and the media they post.

In a time where LGBTQ+ bodies are threatened physically, mentally, and politically, we need a experiences like Green Qween that are championing, celebrating, and spotlighting the community authentically and with care. We need people to advocate for a company that is so obviously LGBTQ+ owned. We need people to know that we’re here to stay and we’re taking a stand.

When you support Green Qween, that is what you’ll help us do. I urge you to support the LGBTQIA+ community with your support of Green Qween.

Support the Qween.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathan Johnson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nathan Johnson
Cannabis Media Council



Dear Nithya Ramen,

In a world where the LGBTQ+ community has been consistently questioned and attacked for simply breathing, I crave to see more companies that uplift our community. I want to see businesses that encourage the public to welcome LGBTQ+ individuals as people whose lives are worth living to the fullest. Green Qween is one of those businesses.

Will you fight against the abuse against LGBTQ+ bodies with us by uplifting our businesses?

I urge you to.

Thank You,
Emerald Sky

August 25, 2023

RE: Cannabis License - Green Qween Application

Dear Nithya Ramen,

Green Qween is the only cannabis dispensary that is LGBTQIA+ owned and incorporating that identity as a foundational element to their brand, assortment of products, and team. They are loud and proud! As a fellow LGBTQIA+ minority majority owned brand, MAISON BLOOM feels very connected to Green Qween and their mission.

When you walk into Green Qween, you can feel their ethos all around you; it's in the design, the employees they've hired, the brands they showcase, and the media they post.

In a time where LGBTQIA+ bodies are threatened physically, mentally, and politically, we need more opportunities where we continue to win – and this is a case of just one such win that would be well deserved. We need people to advocate for a company that is so obviously LGBTQIA+ owned. We need people to know that we're here to stay and we're taking a stand.

When you support Green Qween, that is what you'll help us do. I urge you to support the LGBTQIA+ community in all its forms from consumers to proprietors to owner/operator brands with your support of Green Qween.

Please support the Qween.

Sante!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Sananikone', written in a cursive style.

Tony Sananikone
Co-Founder | MAISON BLOOM

S T O N E R O A D

Re: Support for Green Qween

Dear Councilwoman Nithya Raman:

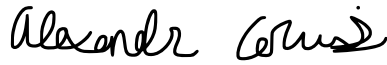
My name is Lex Corwin and I run a small family-owned cannabis farm and brand called Stone Road. I am proudly a member of LBGTQ+ community and am writing to you in support of Green Qween's application for a new store in Sherman Oaks.

In an industry where slotting fees and pay-to-play are the norm, Green Qween stands out as a bright spot by instead using its purchasing power to elevate minority brands like mine. They are one of our top accounts and always pay us on time which helps us re-invest in our community.

Green Qween is at the forefront of improving the industry by giving opportunities to LBGTQ+ and BIPOC small businesses. As a local queer small business, their mission hits especially close to home.

Please stand with the LBGTQ+ business community and help push for responsible operators by supporting Green Qween's license application. They will be responsible operators and an asset to the community.

Best,



Lex Corwin

CEO/ Co-Founder
Stone Road
Stoneroad.org

August 30, 2023

Topic: Cannabis License - Green Qween Application

Dear Nithya Ramen,

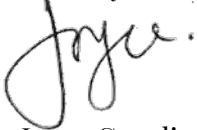
Green Qween is the only cannabis dispensary that is LGBTQ+ owned and using that identity as a key to their brand. They are loud and proud! As a fellow LGBTQ+ community member and a co-owner of a key brand in the space, I personally and my company – Sonoma Hills Farm – feels very connected to Green Qween and their mission.

When you walk into Green Qween, you can feel their ethos all around you; it's in the design, the employees they've hired, the brands they showcase, and the media they post.

In a time where LGBTQ+ bodies are threatened physically, mentally, and politically, we need a win like this. We need people to advocate for a company that is so obviously LGBTQ+ owned. We need people to know that we're here to stay and we're taking a stand.

When you support Green Qween, that is what you'll help us do. Sonoma Hills Farms stands with the "Qween" and we hope you will too. I urge you to support the LGBTQ+ community with your support of Green Qween.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joyce". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Joyce Cenali
Co-Founder
Sonoma Hills Farm

Dear Representative Raman,

As the founder and CEO of the cannabis brand Drew Martin, I believe it my duty to advocate on behalf of the industry leading dispensary Green Qween. What I've seen at Green Qween is inspiring. They're proudly queer—displaying LGBTQ+ owned products (including up and coming brands such as Drew Martin)—and yet they remain for everyone. What that does for the LGBTQ+ community is priceless. It invites us into more spaces and normalizes our presence.

I ask that you, without hesitation, approve Green Qween's license request. Please offer an LGBTQ+ owned business an opportunity to accrue economic growth so that more LGBTQ+ owned brands may be given an opportunity to develop a footprint in the economic growth of the cannabis industry. Beyond economic prosperity, please offer this opportunity to a dispensary that contributes to the visibility of our beloved LGBTQ+ community and thus the protection of precious LGBTQ+ lives.

All the Best,

Drew Gosselin

Drew Martin Gosselin
Founder, Drew Martin

August 30, 2023

RE: Cannabis License - Green Qween Application

Dear Nithya Ramen,

Green Qween is a marquee example of exceptional retail and, to my knowledge, the only cannabis dispensary that is LGBTQ+ owned and using that identity as a key to their brand. They are loud and proud! As a local resident who works across policy and community efforts both in the world of cannabis and in support of LGBTQ+ initiatives, I feel very connected to Green Qween and their mission.

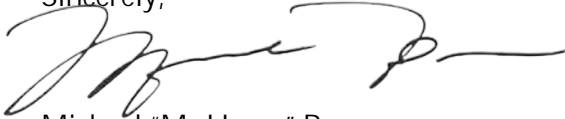
When you walk into Green Qween, you can feel the community and the heart and care the put into all they do – it's in the design, the employees they've hired, the brands they showcase, and the media they post.

In a time where LGBTQ+ bodies are threatened physically, mentally, and politically, we need a win like this. We need people to advocate for a company that is so obviously LGBTQ+ owned. We need people to know that we're here to stay and we're taking a stand.

When you support Green Qween, that is what you'll help our great community do. I urge you to support the LGBTQ+ community with your support of Green Qween.

Support the Qween.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Bowman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael "Mr Hemp" Bowman
Resident + Hemp and Cannabis Public Policy Advocate



Dear Esteemed Councilmember Nithya Ramen,

It is of no surprise to myself that I am writing this letter of support on behalf of Green Qween. As the founder of Wyld, our company's goals have always been centered on equity, racial justice, and philanthropy. We are also LGBTQ+ owned. Wyld has sponsored 420 expungements, partnered with the Equality Federation, and even become the first cannabis brand to be Climate Neutral Certified. Featuring our products at Green Qween was a no brainer.

Green Qween's commitment to social equity and philanthropy makes them a very attractive company for Wyld to work with and I believe this sentiment should be shared by leaders in the community like yourself.

From your perspective, I would consider what message having a business such as Green Qween sends to the community and other prospective businesses looking for a home in Sherman Oaks. Licensing Green Qween displays your commitment to social issues that people in your region care about: racial equity, LGBTQ+ rights, women's rights, and environmental justice.

I ask that you please give Green Qween your greatest consideration.

In Solidarity,

René Kaza

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "René Kaza". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

August 28, 2023

RE: Cannabis License - Green Qween Application

Dear Nithya Ramen,

Green Qween is the only cannabis dispensary that is LGBTQIA+ owned and using that identity as a key to their brand. They are loud and proud! As a proudly queer owned brand, Honeysuckle Media and Magazine feels very connected to Green Qween and their mission.

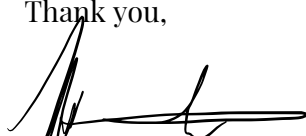
When you walk into Green Qween, you can feel their ethos all around you; it's in the design, the employees they've hired, the brands they showcase, and the media they post.

In a time where LGBTQIA+ bodies are threatened physically, mentally, and politically, we need a win like this. We need people to advocate for a company that is so obviously LGBTQIA+ owned. We need people to know that we're here to stay and we're taking a stand.

When you support Green Qween, that is what you'll help us do. I urge you to support the LGBTQ+ community with your support of Green Qween.

Support the Qween.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jake Wall', written over a horizontal line.

Jake Wall
Editorial Director - West Coast
Honeysuckle Media + Magazine

Re: Green Qween Licensing in Sherman Oaks

To: Councilwoman Nithya Ramen

From: The Farmeaceuticals Co.

My name is Michelle Gibbons and I am proud to be both a woman and member of the LGBTQ+ community. I am also a proud founder of The Farmeaceuticals Co. and am writing this letter in support of Green Qween's licensing application.

Through Green Qween's support of The Farmeaceuticals Co. they have held true to their mission to incubate women-owned and LGBTQ+ owned businesses. Many business owners do not invest in social enterprise until later in their development, or after they've been called out for their harmful community impact. What I enjoy about Green Qween is their inclusion of social enterprise at the beginning of their story. I would like to see them grow and set a new precedent for business.

Please grant a license to Green Qween and open up a wider pathway to normalize responsible business operations.

Thank You,

Michelle Gibbons

To: Councilwoman Nithya Ramen

Here at Hello Again, we create products for women by women. We sell cannabis vaginal suppositories to help women with menopause, periods, hangovers, and sleep. We've sold our products at over 100 dispensaries statewide, but few of them have a clear mission to incubate woman owned brands.

Our partnership with Green Qween is one of our most important for a couple of reasons:

1. Selling products for menopause so openly helps to normalize women getting older and embracing that as opposed to dreading it.
2. Because Green Qween is a safe haven for all who identify with the LGBTQ+ community, our trans siblings can purchase our products without the fear of threat.
3. Our Menopause and Period product help with pain and discomfort without getting you high.

I urge you to provide unwavering support for Green Qween. With your support, I hope we can say, "Hello Again" to Green Qween.

Sincerely,

Lauren Gibson

Sales Director at Hello Again

August 28, 2023

RE: Cannabis License - Green Qween Application

Dear Nithya Ramen,

Green Qween is the only cannabis dispensary that is LGBTQIA+ owned and using that identity as a key to their brand. They are loud and proud! As a proudly queer owned brand, Honeysuckle Media and Magazine feels very connected to Green Qween and their mission.

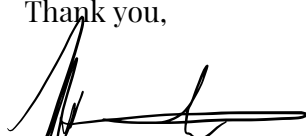
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When you support Green Qween, that is what you'll help us do. I urge you to support the LGBTQ+ community with your support of Green Qween.

Support the Qween.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jake Wall', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jake Wall
Editorial Director - West Coast
Honeysuckle Media + Magazine

August 24, 2023

Re: Support for Green Qween

Hello Councilmember Nithya Ramen,
My name is Joyce Cenali and I am a Co-Founder and COO of cannabis brand and chef's garden Sonoma Hills Farm, the very first CCOF certified like-organic farm in California and the very first licensed farm in wine country. I am writing to you in strong advocacy for Green Qween's dispensary license application in the valley.

As a member of the LGBTQ+ community, I have simply enjoyed watching Green Qween succeed. They use their business savvy to create a safe place for the entire queer community. They are the first dispensary of their kind and their staff seeks to inform and educate, and create an environment that showcases a wide array of conscious leaning products, many of which are sourced from LGBTQ, women, and BIPOC purveyors. Green Qween represents the type of inviting environment that is sure to attract tourists and locals alike, and leave them with a great sense of the unique environment that California reflects. Their staff and executive team are a pleasure to work with and bring a professional and more traditional retail experience that is approachable and undaunting.

Let us uplift Green Qween together!

Sincerely,



Joyce Cenali, Chief Operating Officer

Sonoma Hills Farm

joyce@sonomahillsfarm.com

415-609-5251

August 31, 2023

Topic: Cannabis License - Green Qween Application

Dear Nithya Ramen,

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When you support Green Qween, that is what you’ll help us do. I urge you to support the LGBTQIA+ community with your support of Green Qween.

Support the Qween.

Sincerely,

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Nathan Johnson
Cannabis Media Council

August 30, 2023

RE: Cannabis License - Green Qween Application

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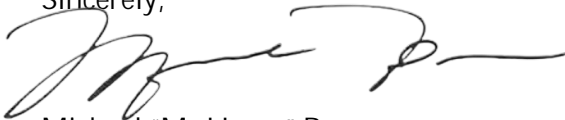
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Support the Qween.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Bowman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael "Mr Hemp" Bowman
Resident + Hemp and Cannabis Public Policy Advocate